

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RIO DE 00261 191849Z

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ACTION H-03

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FM AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OREP (JAVITS, JACOB K)

SUBJ: FOLLOW-UP ON SENATOR JAVITS' TRIP

REF: STATE 10769

1. FIRST DAY (JANUARY 4) OF SENATOR JAVITS' VISIT TO RIO DE JANEIRO WAS SPENT WITH HIS FRIEND, ISRAEL KLABIN. SENATOR SEEMED MOST PLEASED WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE AN OLD FRIEND AND RELAX. ON MONDAY, JANUARY 5, THE SENATOR HAD TWO VERY USEFUL SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS WITH BUSINESS GROUPS. THE FIRST MEETING WITH FIVE SELECTED MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WAS LARGELY A GIVE AND TAKE IN WHICH CHAMBER MEMBERS DISCUSSED WITH THE SENATOR BRAZILIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICIES AND OFFERED COMMENTS ON US POLICY TOWARD BRAZIL. FOR HIS PART THE SENATOR EXPLAINED HIS VIEWS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (I.E. THE FREE MARKET SYSTEM AS A FACTOR IN POLITICAL DEMOCRACY), AND HIS BELIEF THAT THE IMBALANCE IN BILATERAL TRADE IN FAVOR OF THE US COULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO PERSIST. HE ALSO MADE CLEAR HIS STRONG OPPOSITION TO CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE REPORT ON MULTINATIONALS PREPARED BY TWO ACADEMICS FOR SENATOR CHURCH'S SUBCOMMITTEE. THIS WAS THE MOST USEFUL AND PRODUCTIVE MEETING WE HAVE YET SEEN WITH AMERICAN CHAMBER MEMBERS AND WE BELIEVE THE SENATOR APPRECIATED IT. DURING THE AFTERNOON THE SENATOR MET WITH THE BRAZILIAN NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF COMMERCE. THIS MEETING WAS ALSO VERY USEFUL BUT INVOLVED LESS GIVE AND TAKE, BEING MORE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 RIO DE 00261 191849Z

A PRESENTATION OF VIEWS BY CERTAIN OF THE MORE ARTICULATE MEMBERS

OF THE GROUP. BOTH OF THESE MEETINGS WITH DYNAMIC MEMBERS OF THE BRAZILIAN AND AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO WERE HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE AND WELL RECEIVED BY THE RIO DE JANEIRO PARTICIPANTS. IN BOTH MEETINGS THE QUESTION OF REPEATED POST-PONEMENTS OF THE SECRETARY'S EXPECTED VISIT TO BRAZIL AND RESULTANT UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY WERE RAISED. SENATOR JAVITS PROMISED THE BRAZILIAN BUSINESSMEN THAT HE WOULD PERSONALLY RAISE THE MATTER WITH THE SECRETARY.

3. SENATOR ALSO MET WITH RIO DE JANEIRO STATE SECRETARY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE AND WITH WHOM HE HAD FRANK AND FRIENDLY EXCHANGE ON BRAZILIAN ATTITUDES TOWARD: FOREIGN INVESTMENT; MULTINATIONALS AND EXPROPRIATION.

4. IN HIS PRIVATE MEETINGS AND WITH THE PRESS, SENATOR STRESSED THREE MAJOR THEMES: THE CURRENT BILATERAL TRADE IMBALANCE IN FAVOR OF THE US SHOULD BE REDRESSED; THE IMPORTANCE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT (AND OF A HOSPITABLE LOCAL INVESTMENT CLIMATE), AND AND THE IDEA THAT BRAZIL SHOULD VIEW ITSELF MORE AS A DEVELOPED THAN AN UNDERDEVELOPED NATION AND SHOULD SHOULDER RESPONSIBILITIES APPROPRIATE TO THAT CONDITION.

5. A DINNER PARTY AT THE CONSUL GENERAL'S RESIDENCE MONDAY EVENING GAVE THE SENATOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET A NUMBER OF RIO POLITICAL AND BUSINESS LEADERS AND TO DISCUSS WITH THEM SUBJECTS SIMILAR TO THOSE RAISED IN HIS CONVERSATIONS DURING THE DAY.

6. THE SENATOR RECEIVED EXCELLENT PRESS ATTENTION FROM MAJOR NEWSPAPERS AND TELEVISION IN RIO DE JANEIRO AND REFUSED TO BE DRAWN INTO DISCUSSIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE RECENT ANTIZIONIST VOTE IN THE UN AND BRAZIL'S POSITION IN ANGOLA. HE WAS SIMILARLY CIRCUMSPECT IN HIS COMMENTS ON BRAZILIAN FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLICIES DURING HIS PRIVATE MEETINGS.

7. WE BELIEVE THE SENATOR MADE A USEFUL CONTRIBUTION IN RIO TO US POLICY OBJECTIVES TOWARD BRAZIL AND MADE A HIGHLY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION ON THE BRAZILIANS HE MET HERE.

8. EMBASSY CONCURS IN THIS MESSAGE.

DEXTER

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PAGE 03 RIO DE 00261 191849Z

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